

the ownership of automobiles that lags behind, if we do, in the matter of buying bonds to win the war."

ADDRESSES YOUNG SOLDIERS

The Nebraska State Journal, in its report of a public reception tendered to a large number of the drafted young men of Nebraska on their way to camp, published the following concerning Mr. Bryan's part in the meeting held at the Lincoln auditorium, Sunday evening, Oct. 7: "Mr. Bryan, in a ten-minute talk aroused frequent applause by his hopeful assurance to his young auditors. Among other things, Colonel Bryan said that while he is a survivor of the Spanish-American war, in which he was a commanding officer, that that war lasted so short a time and its soldiers experienced so little of the hardships of war as compared to those who went forth and endured the civil war, that he felt embarrassed when it was mentioned. He referred feelingly to the old soldiers of '61 and the valor that should be imitated by those now going forth. In expressing how much the people of Lincoln appreciated their visit while en route to camp, he pointed to the packed galleries and standing room of the auditorium, which in a small way marked the appreciation of a nation of their loyalty and sincerity. He thought conditions had so changed in recent years that their return as morally strong as when they left was practically assured; that mothers could sleep without worry on this score; that the nation had driven liquor and immorality from the camps, from the army and navy."

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Colonel Roosevelt takes a fling every now and then at Mr. Bryan. He can not or will not forgive that gentleman for his ante-bellum attitude. Isn't it about time for all the genuine patriots who are now working for the success of the nation in war to call a truce to recriminations based on what has gone before to look only at what is being done now?

The great question today is not "What were you doing before the war?" but "What are you doing now?" And there are very few people who can give a better answer to this last question at this minute than William J. Bryan. There isn't any foolish pacifism in what he is saying. There isn't any direct or indirect effort to keep the nation from doing its best. On the contrary, everything he is saying and doing today is patriotically meant and clearly calculated to forward the great cause of America against its enemies.

After this war is over anybody who so desires should feel at complete liberty to rake in the past, even the recent past, and stir up all the old embers of discord that he likes. Today the only question is, "Are you with us absolutely in this war?" And where the answer is "Yes," there is nothing to be said except "God bless you, brother!"—Chicago Herald.

The New York World recently sent a representative to investigate the warehouses of that city. He found there great stacks of leather and hides, and no unusual or pressing demand for the raw material for shoes. In stores he found the price of shoes as altitudinous as ever. In the shoe jobbing and manufacturing houses he found just a little indication of a decrease. In the face of conditions like these it is remarkable that there can be found persons who insist that we will close up the great industries if we insist on taking more than 31 per cent of their excess war profits.

After the food control bill became a law Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska was quoted as having said in effect that few members of the senate believed it would do any good or was advisable, but that it had been passed because the President desired it. It has stopped speculation in wheat and in fuel and has definitely halted the upward sweep of prices. Is it any wonder that when the people must choose between the President and the senate in a dispute that involves the wisdom of a policy proposed they pick Wilson?

ORATORS PREACH LIBERTY LOAN

A Washington dispatch, dated Oct. 7, says: A country-wide speaking campaign by well known orators, including Former President Taft, William J. Bryan, members of the cabinet and scores of other men prominent in public life will feature the second week for the \$5,000,000,000 drive for the liberty loan, beginning tomorrow.

BOYHOOD MEMORIES



—From Boston Post.

RECALLING 16 TO 1

The great advance in the price of silver from an average price of around 56 cents before the big war started to over \$1 an ounce now brings into view at least the possibility that the metal may regain the historic ratio of 16 to 1 for gold which back in the first Bryan campaign was the great issue before the country. To attain this ratio with gold, an ounce of silver would have to sell at about \$1.29; and on account of the continued heavy demand and the decreased production it is freely predicted that this price may be reached.

It is not beyond the bounds of credibility that bimetallism may be again an active economic issue before the world. For centuries prior to 1873, and for some years thereafter, silver and gold were acceptable as currency in the leading countries of the world in the ratio of 16 ounces of silver for one ounce of gold. Measured against these centuries, the period since silver became practically demonetized in international trade is a comparatively short space of time.

In the past ten years or more the annual increase in the gold supply has been proportionally less than it was in the previous decade; and, as is attested by the tremendous rise in commodity prices, it has probably not kept pace with the world's demand for currency. The great world war has caused tremendous emissions of paper money for which gold alone is apparently not available in sufficient amounts to provide a proper base, and it is already reported that several of the European nations may attempt to remonetize the white metal when the war is ended.

To us it will probably make little difference. If the post-bellum demand for silver keeps it at parity with gold on a 16 to 1 basis by natural market conditions, it will be worth as much as gold. If the price of silver again drops to the level prevailing in the past generation, we are

still well secured with one-third of the world's gold supply.

In any event, Europe will have to come to us to arrange the basis, rather than that we shall have to ask her aid in establishing the ratio as was suggested in the middle '90s.—Boston Post.

The Nebraska supreme court, in a decision rendered the other week, declined to permit a brewer to use the judicial machinery of the state to collect a liquor bill from a former retailer. The testimony was that in order to evade a state law that prohibited brewers from owning buildings in which saloons were located this brewer organized a dummy real estate holding company and then advanced the money to the man to pay his license fee—an excellent answer to the claim sometimes made to the claim that the saloon merely meets a public demand. The court said that it was contrary to public policy to permit recovery in a case where the testimony showed fraudulent and direct violation of statutory law.

The next revenue bill that congress will be asked to pass in order to meet the extraordinary expenses of the war will have to take larger slices of the excess war profits. This is not only simple justice, but sound sense. We can not afford to build up industries in this country that, in the future, would have the same reasons for becoming war propagandists that Krupps had in Germany. Economists of standing in this country are united in declaring that there are two features of the present bill which are open for amendment and which should be amended when the next revenue law is passed. These are a tax which will take substantially all of special war profits and a drastic increase in the rates of the income tax, with a sharper progression in rates as incomes become larger.